

Training interlingual live subtitlers: development of a new competence profile and course structure

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Audiovisual translation and media accessibility have become drivers of social inclusion and integration. When subtitles for the deaf and hard-of-hearing have to be produced live (on television, at a live event, etc.), the preferred technique is respeaking, where subtitlers listen to the speaker and simultaneously repeat or rephrase what they hear to a speech recognition (SR) software that turns these words into *intralingual* subtitles. Intralingual respeaking practices differ across countries, but training does exist. With the increased multicultural composition of societies worldwide, there is however also a growing demand for accessibility to live audiovisual content conducted in a foreign language. In other words, professionals who can produce *interlingual* live subtitles through respeaking are needed and thus have to be trained. But the question is: how? This is precisely the aim of the Erasmus+ ILSA project, i.e. to develop the new professional profile of the ILS-er. This will happen in different phases: (1) an assessment of the current intralingual live subtitling practice and training, (2) the identification of the skills required for the job, (3) the development, assessment and validation of a specialized course and its materials, and (4) the creation of a protocol for the implementation of ILS in different settings. In our paper, we will report on the first two phases mentioned before. In other words, we will first present the results of an online survey conducted in 2018 among (a) trainers of interlingual live subtitling, (b) live-subtitlers, (c) broadcasters and service providers, and whose aim was to assess the current intralingual and interlingual live subtitling practice and training. Second, we will describe the necessary skills for live interlingual subtitling, as well as the course structure developed based on phase 1.